WHY RANKED CHOICE VOTING IN UTAH PARTISAN PRIMARIES

Currently, a primary election in Utah can be won by a candidate with far less than a majority. Ranked Choice Voting solves the plurality problem by ensuring that the winning candidate receives a majority (50%+1) of votes in a primary election.











BETTER FASTER CHEAPER IT WORKS

2020 UTAH PRIMARIES



1ST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

4 Candidates, winner obtained 30.9% 39,620 votes of 120,856 votes (699,943 total pop)



GOVERNOR'S RACE

4 Candidates, winner obtained 36.1%



4TH DISTRICT

4 Candidates, winner obtained 43.5%

MYTHS



It helps moderates



It helps extreme candidates

It's confusing and more people spoil their ballots

FACTS



It doesn't help any specific ideological leaning – it helps elect candidates who have the most support among the electorate



Data shows there are no more spoiled ballots than in previous elections

OTHER BENEFITS



ELIMINATES GAMING strategies with current system



ENCOURAGES CIVILITY, less negative words and more candidate cooperation



VOTERS PREFER IT (80+ who used RCV in Payson, Vineyard, and Republican state convention said they preferred it to the traditional system)



in Payson and Vineyard responded they liked RCV and would like to continue to use it for their municipal elections)



INCREASES VOTER TURNOUT



ELIMINATES SPOILER EFFECT



RESULTS REFLECT TRUE intentions of voters broadly, not the "lesser of two evils"

UTAH POLITICAL PARTIES & RCV

- According to a survey following its 2020 state convention, 90% of Utah Republican Party delegates prefer using RCV to nominate candidates. Utah GOP chairman Derek Brown acknowledged RCV's benefits, and praised the method for saving time and increasing civility in intra-party elections.
- Utah Democratic Party chairman Jeff Merchant likes RCV so much he'd, "like to see ranked-choice voting stay even after in-person conventions come back."